

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior listings and versions of the claims in the present application.

Claim 1-16 (Canceled).

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): A waterproof and breathable sole for shoes comprising:

a supporting layer which, at least in a preset macroportion thereof, has an area on the order of at least one square centimeter, and is made of net, felt or other diffusely perforated material;

a membrane that is made of a material that is impermeable to water and permeable to water vapor and is associated above said supporting layer at least in said at least one preset macroportion made of net, felt or other diffusely perforated material, which it covers;

a tread made of plastic material, with at least one through macroperforation at said at least one preset macroportion made of net, felt or other diffusely perforated material wherein said at least one through macroportion of said tread exposes said supporting layer to an outside portion of said tread and said at least one preset macroportion of said supporting layer having said area on the order of at least one square centimeter,

said tread being joined hermetically to said membrane and to said supporting layer at least at a perimeter of said at least one macroportion made of net, felt or other diffusely perforated material.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): The sole according to claim 17, wherein said supporting layer, in portions that are distinct with respect to said at least one preset

macroportion made of net, felt or other diffusely perforated material, is constituted by a fine mesh, leather or other similar materials.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): The sole according to claim 17, wherein said membrane made of waterproof and vapor-permeable material is laminated together with a fine supporting mesh, which lies thereabove and is made of synthetic material.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The sole according to claim 17, wherein said membrane is coupled by way of spots of glue to said supporting layer in contact regions.

Claim 21 (Currently Amended): The sole according to claim 17, wherein said supporting layer is entirely made of mesh, felt or other diffusely perforated material that ~~constitutes~~ and includes a single large macroportion that is covered in an upward region by said membrane and wherein said tread made of plastic material is ~~assembled~~ connected to said supporting layer and is joined hermetically to said membrane at least at its peripheral region.

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): The sole according to claim 21, wherein said tread has substantially one single large through macroperforation that affects substantially all of the sole of the foot except for the perimeter, said macroperforation being delimited by protrusions that form, together with the perimeter, a ground contact surface.

Claim 23 (Currently Amended): The sole according to claim 18, wherein said tread is provided injected directly into a mold onto said supporting layer with at least perimetric

penetration through [[the]] meshes of said net or of the felt, which is perimetrically reduced in thickness, is perforated perimetrically or bordered with net, so as to reach and join hermetically said membrane.

Claims 24-26 Canceled).

Claim 27 (Previously Presented): A shoe with a sole as set forth in claim 17, further comprising an upper that is assembled to an assembly insole and is coupled to said sole at a peripheral region of said insole.

Claim 28 (Previously Presented): The shoe with sole according to claim 27, wherein coupling between said assembly insole, said upper, and said sole is provided by gluing or high-frequency welding.

Claim 29 (Previously Presented): The shoe with sole according to claim 27, wherein said assembly insole is coupled in a downward region with respect to a filler layer made of a material of one of diffusely perforated EVA, coconut fibers, et cetera.

Claim 30 (Previously Presented): The shoe with sole according to claim 27, further comprising an inner sole made of breathable or diffusely perforated material arranged above said assembly insole.

Claim 31 (Previously Presented): The shoe with sole according to claim 30, wherein said insole is coupled, in a downward region, to a layer made of polyethylene or the like that is diffusely perforated and contoured anatomically.

Claim 32 (Currently Amended): A shoe comprising:

a sole that comprises:

a supporting layer, which is made of net, felt or other diffusely perforated material at least in a preset macroportion thereof having an area on the order of at least one square centimeter;

a membrane, which is made of a material that is impermeable to water and vapor-permeable and is associated in an upward region with said supporting layer at least in said at least one preset macroportion made of net, felt or other diffusely perforated material, which it covers;

a tread, which is made of plastic material with at least one through macroperforation at said at least one preset macroportion made of mesh, felt or other diffusely perforated material wherein said at least one through macroportion of said tread exposes said supporting layer to an outside portion of said tread and said at least one preset macroportion of said supporting layer having said area on the order of at least one square centimeter;

an upper that is assembled on an assembly insole that is coupled in a downward region with respect to a layer made of a material of diffusely perforated EVA or the like, which constitutes means for hermetic high-frequency welding of said membrane to said upper from above, perimetrically with respect to said macroportion, said tread being glued perimetrically to the assembly.

Claim 33 (New): A shoe as claimed in claim 17, wherein said at least one through portion of the tread extends through an entire thickness portion of said tread and said preset microportion of said supporting layer extends into said at least one through portion of the tread.

Claim 34 (New): A shoe as claimed in claim 32, wherein said at least one through portion of the tread extends through an entire thickness portion of said tread and said preset macroportion of said support layer extends into said at least one through portion of the tread.